



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Committee Bill No. 663

LCO No. 3348

03348SB00663AGE

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Aging

Introduced by:
(AGE)

AN ACT CONCERNING SENIOR OPERATORS OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (e) of section 14-36 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2009*):

4 (e) (1) No motor vehicle operator's license shall be issued until (A)
5 the applicant signs and files with the commissioner an application
6 under oath, or made subject to penalties for false statement in
7 accordance with section 53a-157b, and (B) the commissioner is satisfied
8 that the applicant is sixteen years of age or older and is a suitable
9 person to receive the license. (2) An applicant for a new motor vehicle
10 operator's license shall, in the discretion of the commissioner, file, with
11 the application, a copy of such applicant's birth certificate or other
12 prima facie evidence of date of birth and evidence of identity. (3)
13 Before granting a license to any applicant who has not previously held
14 a Connecticut motor vehicle operator's license, or who has not
15 operated a motor vehicle during the preceding two years, the
16 commissioner shall require the applicant to demonstrate personally to

17 the commissioner, a deputy or a motor vehicle inspector or an agent of
18 the commissioner, in such manner as the commissioner directs, that
19 the applicant is a proper person to operate motor vehicles of the class
20 for which such applicant has applied, has sufficient knowledge of the
21 mechanism of the motor vehicles to ensure their safe operation by him
22 or her and has satisfactory knowledge of the laws concerning motor
23 vehicles and the rules of the road. If any such applicant has held a
24 license from a state, territory or possession of the United States where
25 a similar examination is required, or if any such applicant is a person
26 honorably separated from the United States armed forces who applies
27 within two years following the separation and who, prior to the
28 separation, held a military operator's license for motor vehicles of the
29 same class as that for which such applicant has applied, the
30 commissioner may waive part or all of the examination. When the
31 commissioner is satisfied as to the ability and competency of any
32 applicant, the commissioner may issue to such applicant a license,
33 either unlimited or containing such limitations as the commissioner
34 deems advisable, and specifying the class of motor vehicles which the
35 licensee is eligible to operate. (4) If any applicant or operator license
36 holder has any health problem which might affect such person's ability
37 to operate a motor vehicle safely, the commissioner may require the
38 applicant or license holder to demonstrate personally or otherwise
39 establish that, notwithstanding such problem, such applicant or license
40 holder is a proper person to operate a motor vehicle, and the
41 commissioner may further require a certificate of such applicant's
42 condition, signed by a medical authority designated by the
43 commissioner, which certificate shall in all cases be treated as
44 confidential by the commissioner. A license, containing such limitation
45 as the commissioner deems advisable, may be issued or renewed in
46 any case, but nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the
47 commissioner from refusing a license, either limited or unlimited, to
48 any person or suspending a license of a person whom the
49 commissioner determines to be incapable of safely operating a motor
50 vehicle. Consistent with budgetary allotments, each motor vehicle

51 operator's license issued to or renewed by a deaf or hearing impaired
 52 person shall, upon the request of such person, indicate such
 53 impairment. Such person shall submit a certificate stating such
 54 impairment, in such form as the commissioner may require and signed
 55 by a licensed health care practitioner. (5) The issuance of a motor
 56 vehicle operator's license to any applicant who is the holder of a
 57 license issued by another state shall be subject to the provisions of
 58 sections 14-111c and 14-111k. (6) If any operator license holder,
 59 seventy-five years of age or older, has been involved in two or more
 60 motor vehicle accidents within a twelve-month period, the
 61 commissioner shall require the operator license holder to demonstrate
 62 personally to the commissioner, a deputy or a motor vehicle inspector
 63 or an agent of the commissioner, in such manner as the commissioner
 64 directs, that the applicant is a proper person to operate motor vehicles
 65 of the class for which such operator holds a license, has sufficient
 66 knowledge of the mechanism of the motor vehicles to ensure their safe
 67 operation by him or her and has satisfactory knowledge of the laws
 68 concerning motor vehicles and the rules of the road. If the
 69 commissioner is not satisfied as to the ability and competency of such
 70 operator license holder, the commissioner shall revoke his or her
 71 license. The commissioner may issue a new license to such person that
 72 contains such limitations as the commissioner deems advisable.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2009	14-36(e)
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Statement of Purpose:

To increase safety by retesting certain older drivers.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. HARP, 10th Dist.; REP. SERRA, 33rd Dist.

S.B. 663